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SECURITY INFORMATION

31 January 1952

Mr. Malcolm Frost
Head, BBC Monitoring Service
Caversham Park
Reading, England

Dear Malcolm:

Since the matter of expediting the issuance of FBIS coverage schedules was raised at our joint meeting last October, and since progress achieved in this direction is not yet manifest, it seems appropriate to advise you as to the nature of this progress and as to what the BBC may expect from us in the early future.

In February our field bureaus will begin to cable us a semi-monthly coverage change report. Initially we shall simply consolidate them into an overall FBIS coverage change report and disseminate, as we are now doing on a monthly basis. This procedure will enable us to report coverage changes with considerably reduced delay. Whether or not we will be able to have the field bureaus multiple address their coverage changes to you directly will depend on communications and other considerations which we must examine.

Before long we anticipate being able to step up our quarterly complete coverage report to a monthly basis, eliminating for the user the annoying and time consuming feature of integrating basic and change lists during the second and third months of each quarter, or 75% of the year. We expect to accomplish this through the use of a new tape-operated typewriter which will enable the clerical work on the lists to be accomplished in less time.

We have made serious efforts to meet your requirements expressed in your 10 October 1951 informal memorandum. I hope that these efforts have resulted in better service to you.

Sincerely,


Chief, FBID

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